GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2710
ANSWERED ON:21.03.2005
CLEARANCE TO IV MUMBAI (MIDDLE-VAITARNA) WATER SUPPLY PROJECT
Mahajan Shri Y.G.;Rathod Shri Harisingh Nasaru

Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government has since approved the Maharashtra Government proposal for environmental clearance of IV Mumbai (Middle-Vaitarna) water supply project;

(b) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether the World Bank has indicated willingness to provide assistance for this project;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) the original estimated cost of the project as per original report of the Tata Consulting Engineers of 1992 and the cost escalation suffered thereby so far; and

(f) the steps taken to clear the project without any further delay ?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA)

(a) & (b) The proposal for diversion of 634.00 ha of forest land for construction of IV Mumbai (Middle-Vaitarna) Water Supply Project in Thane, Nasik District of Maharashtra has been approved by the Central Government. The approval has been granted subject to usual stipulations including raising of Compensatory Afforestation on the non-forest land, declaration of such land as Reserved Forests and payment of Net Present Value etc.

(c) & (d) There is no information about any willingness indicated by the World Bank to provide assistance for this project.

(e) According to information given in the proposal submitted by the user agency for forestry clearance, total cost of the project was Rs. 285 crores at 1996 price level. The anticipated cost as per the year 2002 is about Rs. 1,250 crores.

(f) The approval for diversion of 634.00 ha of forest land for construction of IV Mumbai (Middle-Vaitarna) Water Supply Project has been granted on 27.04.2004 subject to usual stipulations.